

FBIS-0101/85
13 March 1985

Chief, Management Staff

DDS&T

Room 6E45 - Headquarters

For the report to the DCI.

STAT

C/E&PS/FBIS

1013 Key

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DDS&T/FBIS/E&PS [redacted] (13Mar85)

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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Of Special Interest This Week

+ Abnormal Soviet media behavior normally identified with the death of a Soviet leader was first noted by FBIS on 10 March when Moscow radio replaced a scheduled concert for rural workers with a program of somber classical music. For the next 12 hours, classical music continued to dominate Moscow programming. FBIS sent regular comprehensive media reports to the Operations Center, SOVA, State INR and Operations, and the White House Situation Room, all of whom requested phone alerts to new Soviet media behavior. The first FBIS wire CRITIC was issued at 0848 GMT, when Paris AFP quoted an "unimpeachable source" as stating that the CPSU Central Committee had announced Chernenko's death. NSA initiated a NOIWON conference call based on this report. The next CRITIC was issued following the official 1100 GMT Moscow announcement of Chernenko's death.

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+ As a result of current interest in New Zealand political events, FBIS has added Wellington international radio service to its coverage. Over the past few weeks FBIS has been able to file material ranging from comments by opposition leaders, to public opinion polls, to major economic news items.

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